

Shrewsbury Commission on Disabilities
Minutes, May 8, 2007

Commission chairman Keith Willette called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM at Town Hall. Those present included commission members Loretta Henry, Barbara Smith, Jerry Berrier, and town resident Russ Henry. Town Manager Morgado also attended.

The March minutes were approved as written.

Mr. Morgado gave the Liaison report: He described the town's emergency preparedness initiatives.

Notification systems include:

- The ability to preempt radio broadcasts
- TV coverage
- New sirens

He said the town's emergency preparedness plan is massive, broadly defining how to handle various emergency situations. It follows the basic guidelines used at the state level. While it's not primarily meant for public consumption, an individual wishing to peruse it may do so by visiting Town Hall.

He urged us to encourage folks to have their own emergency preparedness plans.

He said community shelters would only be used if necessary. In an emergency, if at all possible, residents will be urged to shelter at home.

Mr. Morgado said it would be helpful for civic organizations to establish a database of those willing to assist in an emergency. The database should be able to be queried by skill set.

Other Business:

Keith said he has received a letter from John DeMarco from the Shrewsbury post office stating that the handicap parking issues will soon be resolved on both sides of the post office. Other access issues will be handled as renovations are done in the future.

We have received no calls and no complaints.

Keith informed us that commission member Moira Miller was required to resign from the disability commission when she was elected to a Selectman position. Mr. Morgado confirmed that and said he will seek an elected official to replace her. We all commented that Moira has been a valuable member of our commission.

We plan to hold another fall forum in October. Keith asked us to be thinking of possible speakers. A likely topic will be emergency preparedness.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:30 PM.

Respectfully,
Jerry Berrier, Secretary